

NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION



Information Letter



FOR N. C. A. MEMBERS

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State Corn Borer Legislation Adopted in States

The Bureau of Entomology, U. S. Department of Agriculture, reports that the necessary legislation with respect to authority for enforcement of corn-borer regulations and clean-up measures has been enacted in New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Indiana. In Michigan the act passed by the state legislature is ready for the governor's approval, and it is expected the spring campaign may be pushed forward immediately in the five middle western states.

Details of the regulations which have been adopted for corn borer clean up procedure are included in "United States Department of Agriculture Miscellaneous Circular 102," copies of which will be forwarded to interested parties on application to the Bureau of Entomology, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., or to Mr. Earl G. Brewer, 2036 East 22nd St., Cleveland, Ohio.

Canned Food Exports in 1926

Decreases in the exports of canned meat, milk and fruits, with increases in canned fish and vegetable exports, were the outstanding features of the canned food export trade of the United States in 1926, according to an analysis prepared by R. S. Hollingshead of the Foodstuffs Division of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, and published in Commerce Reports for March 7.

"With the exception of a few items, the production of canned foods in 1926," he states, "was in excess of or comparable with the production of 1925. On account of unfavorable climatic conditions the tomato yield was about 9,500,000 cases,

which is 24 per cent below the average for 1921 to 1925. Corn and pea packs were very high, and the packs of fruit in California and of pineapples in Hawaii topped previous records. The scarcity of sardines on the California coast has affected the exports of the canned product, since many orders could not be filled by the desired shipping dates. The actual exports, however, have been above those of past years. Of greatest importance to the export trade as a whole have been the unsettled conditions in the United Kingdom, as a result of the prolonged coal strike of the past summer. It is reported also that the English market is temporarily dull, owing to that effect of the disposal of excess stocks of the 1925 pack."

The decline in condensed milk exports is attributed in large measure to decreases in shipments to Cuba and the Philippines, while smaller shipments to England and Germany account for the loss in evaporated milk. In Germany, which is the more important market, tariff changes caused the decline. To meet this situation some American producers have established plants in Germany.

"There have been no important changes in the distribution of canned salmon," the article goes on to say, "but a very satisfactory increase has taken place in exports of sardines in spite of the short domestic production. With the exception of Argentina, practically all countries took more sardines than formerly. The decrease of 7,000,000 pounds in shipments to Argentina is due largely to new food regulations, which require the packing of sardines with tomato sauce in cans lacquered or enameled on the inside."

Pointing out that for years the world trade in canned vegetables has been dominated by European products, notably those of France, Italy and Belgium, although the United States production was far greater than all of these countries combined, the writer states that the increase in canned vegetable exports from this country indicates a movement toward a better condition. "With the exception of corn and peas, increases have occurred in exports of every article. The bulk of the growth is in beans and soups and is probably due to intensive export activities by a few producers or shippers. Normal increases took place with the other vegetables. A considerable volume of tomatoes moved to Australia. This was abnormal, and was due to the temporary removal of import duties following a practically complete failure of this crop. The new English food regulations will prove of value to American exporters of canned vegetables, as competition will be on a basis of quality and will

not be affected by the color of products treated with copper salts."

Smaller exports of canned fruits in 1926 were to be expected, it is stated, in view of the unusually large shipments in 1925. Practically all the losses occurred in the trade with the United Kingdom and involved peaches, pears, pineapples and apricots. The article expresses the belief that the condition is temporary and that when the large stocks of 1925 packs are disposed of and normal operations following the coal strike are resumed, an export movement sufficiently large to make up for the 1925 deficiencies may take place.

Statistics are presented showing that 75 per cent of the trade in canned foods is with five countries—United Kingdom, Philippines, Canada, Cuba, and Mexico.

Canning Crops Production and Prices

A summary of the statistics on crops grown for canning or manufacture has been issued by the U. S. Department of Agriculture. The following table gives the figures for the United States as a whole—acreage, production per acre, and price per unit of production—for the last three years.

Crops	1924	1925	1926
Asparagus:			
Acreageacres	26,330	34,930	48,450
Yield per acretons	1.7	1.3	1.1
Price per ton	\$99.19	\$78.74	*\$66.58
Spinach:			
Acreageacres	9,750	11,190	11,310
Yield per acretons	4.7	3.0	4.4
Price per ton	\$20.72	\$20.30	*\$17.20
Cucumbers:			
Acreageacres	85,410	100,130	68,200
Yield per acretons	30	68	55
Price per bushel	\$1.14	\$1.02	\$0.96
Peas:			
Acreageacres	226,590	226,630	218,400
Yield per acretons	1.1	0.9	1.0
Price per ton	\$59.40	\$58.54	\$57.93
Tomatoes:			
Acreageacres	289,270	349,930	260,650
Yield per acretons	4.0	5.1	3.8
Price per ton	\$15.57	\$14.77	\$13.93
Sweet corn:			
Acreageacres	302,790	393,910	311,640
Yield per acretons	1.7	2.6	2.6
Price per ton	\$14.17	\$15.04	\$13.17
Snap beans:			
Acreageacres	25,030	32,090	26,210
Yield per acretons	1.8	2.1	1.1
Price per ton	\$66.03	\$64.32	\$60.68

* Weighted average

Asparagus Standards Announced

Standards (1927) for fresh asparagus have been announced by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, as follows:

GRADES

U. S. No. 1 shall consist of fresh, well trimmed stalks of asparagus which are not badly crooked; which do not have broken or spreading tips and which are free from decay and from damage caused by dirt, disease, insects or mechanical or other means.

Unless otherwise specified, the diameter of each stalk shall not be less than 1/4 of an inch and the length shall not be less than 8 1/2 inches.

In order to allow for variations incident to proper grading and handling, not more than 5%, by count, of any lot may not meet the size requirements. In addition, not more than 10%, by count, of any lot may be below the remaining requirements of this grade but no part of this tolerance shall be allowed for decay.

Unclassified shall consist of stalks of asparagus which are not graded in conformity with the foregoing grade.

SIZE

The following terms are provided for describing the diameters of any lot: Very small means less than 1/4 inches; Small means 1/4 to 9/16 inches; Medium means 9/16 to 3/4 inches inclusive; Large means over

COLOR

In addition to the statement of grade and size, any lot of asparagus may be classified as green asparagus if 90 per cent, by count, of the stalks in any lot are of a green color covering not less than 4 1/2 inches of the length of the stalk.

DEFINITIONS OF TERMS

As used in these grades:

"Well trimmed" means that the butts of the stalks shall be smoothly and evenly cut and free from stringy or frayed ends.

"Badly crooked" means that the stalk is so misshapen or curved that its appearance is seriously affected.

"Damage" means any injury from the causes mentioned which materially affects the appearance or the edible or shipping quality.

"Diameter" means the greatest thickness of the stalk taken at a point not more than 8 1/2 inches from the tip.

Car Loadings

Revenue freight loaded the week ended February 26 totaled 923,849 cars, an increase of 10,914 cars over the corresponding week last year, while it also was an increase of 59,753 cars over the corresponding week in 1925. The total for the week of

February 26 was, however, a decrease of 37,024 cars below the preceding week this year, due to the observance of Washington's birthday.

Canned Fishery Products

Statistics on seven canned fishery products in addition to salmon, which were given in Information Letter No. 195, have now been compiled and published by the U. S. Bureau of Fisheries. The output of each of these products was as follows:

Tuna and tuna-like fishes (on basis of forty-eight ½-pound cans to the case):		<i>Number of cases</i>
Albacore		60,122
Yellowfin tuna		171,964
Bluefin tuna		73,091
Bluefin and yellowfin (mixed)		26,973
Striped tuna		283,180
"Tonno"		137,720
Bonito		46,838
Yellowtail		25,958
Tuna flakes		25,353
Total		851,199
California sardines (on basis of forty-eight 1-pound cans to the case)		2,093,278
Shad (on basis of forty-eight 1-pound cans to the case)		14,275
Shad roe (same basis)		1,121
Alewives (on basis of twenty-four 15-ounce cans to the case)		42,497
Alewife roe (same basis)		72,290
Oysters (on basis of forty-eight 5-ounce cans to the case)		411,670
Shrimp (on basis of forty-eight 5-ounce cans to the case)		739,402
Crabs (on basis of twenty-four 15-ounce cans to the case)		1,846

Navy Asking for Bids on Canned Fish and Corn

The Navy Department is asking for bids on 130,000 pounds of canned codfish and haddock (Schedule 6894), and on 460,000 pounds of canned corn (Schedule 6900), bids on each to be opened March 30. The bids on codfish and haddock call for delivery of 30,000 pounds at Boston, 40,000 pounds at Brooklyn, and 60,000 pounds at Hampton Roads. Bids on corn call for delivery of 80,000 pounds at Boston, 80,000 pounds at Brooklyn, 60,000 pounds at Philadelphia, and 240,000 pounds at Hampton Roads.

Copies of the schedule on which to make bids may be procured from the Bureau of Supplies and Accounts, Navy Department, Washington, D. C.

New Magazine Department Praises Canned Foods

The Shrine Magazine, published by the Ancient Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine and circulating among all members of that order, has instituted a new department conducted by Mrs. Christine Frederick, a writer of note on food economics. The first series of articles by Mrs. Frederick appeared in the issue for March, and one entitled "Canned Pantry" is of particular interest to the canning industry as it is devoted entirely to the value and uses of canned foods. The Shrine Magazine also offers to send to all who may desire it copy of a leaflet entitled "The Company Meal That Comes in Cans."

Bulletins of Interest to Cannerymen

At the third annual conference for cannerymen held at Ithaca, New York, March 1 to 4, there was distributed a selected list of bulletins on tomatoes, sweet corn and peas. As the list will be of value to all cannerymen of these crops it is reproduced below:

TOMATO REFERENCES

- Growing Tomatoes for the Canning Factory—H. S. Mills and L. J. Norton, Cornell Extension Bulletin 96, (Revised 1926). N. Y. State College of Agriculture, Ithaca, N. Y.
- Tomatoes for Canning and Manufacture—J. H. Beattie, Farmers' Bulletin 1233 (1921). U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.
- Canning Factory Tomatoes—H. D. Brown, Bul. 259 (1922). Purdue University Agricultural Expt. Station, Lafayette, Ind.
- Tomato Culture in Missouri—J. T. Quinn, Bul. 212 (1924). Missouri Agricultural Expt. Station, Columbia, Mo.
- More Tomatoes from Fewer Acres—W. R. Ballard and A. D. Radebaugh, Bul. 40 (1926). Extension Service, University of Maryland, College Park, Md.
- Tomatoes for Canning Factory—W. E. Loomis, Extension Circular 224 (1926). Extension Service, University of Arkansas, Little Rock, Ark.
- Tomatoes, Indiana's Health Food—F. C. Gaylord, Extension Bul. 140 (1926). Purdue Agricultural Expt. Station, Lafayette, Indiana.
- Tomatoes for Canning and Market—H. A. Jones, Bul. 248 (1922). Maryland Agricultural Expt. Station, College Park, Maryland.
- Effect of Phosphorus Upon Yield and Time of Maturity of the Tomato—J. R. Helper and H. R. Kraybill, Technical Bul. 28 (1925). New Hampshire Agricultural Expt. Station, Durham, N. H.
- Tomato Seed Selection—C. C. Starring, Bul. 173 (1925). University of Montana Agricultural Expt. Station, Bozeman, Mont.
- Selecting and Saving Tomato Seed—W. A. Huelson, Bul. 250 (1920). Purdue Agricultural Expt. Station, Lafayette, Indiana.
- Tomato Production—Paul Work, pp. 127 (1926). Published by Orange Judd Publishing Company, New York City.

SWEET CORN REFERENCES

- Growing Sweet Corn for the Canning Factory—H. S. Mills, Cornell Extension Bul. 97 (1924). N. Y. State College of Agriculture, Ithaca, N. Y.
- Growing Sweet Corn—E. D. Holden, Circular 196 (1926). Extension Service, College of Agriculture, Madison, Wisconsin.

- Results of Sweet Corn Suckering Experiments—H. C. Thompson, Bul. 450 (1926). Cornell Agricultural Expt. Station, Ithaca, N. Y.
- Relation of Size of Kernels in Sweet Corn to Evenness of Maturity—I. C. Hoffman. Journal of Agr. Research, Vol. XXXI, No. 11 (1925). U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.
- Growing Sweet Corn for Seed—E. D. Holden, Stencil Bul. 74 (1924). Extension Service, Wisconsin Agricultural College, Madison, Wis.
- Sweet Corn Breeding Experiments—Karl Sax, Bul. 332 (1926). Maine Agricultural Expt. Station, Orono, Maine.
- Corn Breeding—E. W. Lindstrom, Bul. 356 (1923). Agricultural Expt. Station, Univ. of Wisconsin, Madison, Wis.
- The European Corn Borer and Its Control—D. J. Caffrey and L. H. Worthley, Farmers' Bul. 1294 (1922). U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.
- Learning to Live with the European Corn Borer—W. P. Flint, J. C. Hackleman and F. C. Bauer, Cir. No. 313 (1927). University of Illinois Agricultural Expt. Station, Urbana, Illinois.
- The European Corn Borer—Carl J. Drake, Cir. 100 (1926). Agricultural Expt. Station, Ames, Iowa.
- Present Status of the European Corn Borer in Michigan—R. H. Pettit, Cir. Bul. 70 (1925). Michigan Agricultural Expt. Station, E. Lansing, Michigan.
- Fight the European Corn Borer—International Harvester Company, 606 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.
- The Corn Ear Worm—W. J. Phillips and K. M. King, Farmers' Bul. 1310 (1923). U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.
- Studies upon the Relative Merits of Sweet Corn Varieties for Canning Purposes and the Relation of Maturity of Corn to the Quality of the Canned Product—C. W. Culpepper and C. A. Magoon, Journal Agricultural Research, Vol. XXVIII, No. 5 (1924).
- Forecasting the Date and Duration of the Best Canning Stage for Sweet Corn—C. O. Appleman, Bul. 254 (1923). Maryland Agricultural Expt. Station, College Park, Maryland.

PEA REFERENCES

- Growing Peas for the Canning Factory—H. S. Mills and L. J. Norton, Extension Bul. 95 (1924). New York State College of Agriculture, Ithaca, N. Y.
- The Production of Peas for Canning—C. J. Hunn, Farmers' Bul. 1255 (1922). U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.
- Seed Peas for the Canner—D. N. Shoemaker, Farmers' Bul. 1253 (1922). U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.
- Variations in Varieties of Canning Peas—F. H. Hall, Bul. 526 (1924). N. Y. State Agricultural Experiment Station, Geneva, N. Y.
- Variations in Varieties of Canning Peas. II—F. H. Hall, Bul. 532 (1925). N. Y. S. Agricultural Experiment Station, Geneva, N. Y.
- Producing Seed Peas in Montana—Clyde McKee, Cir. 128 (1925). Agricultural Experiment Station, Univ. of Montana, Bozeman, Mont.
- Inoculation Increases Yield and Quality of Peas for Canning—A. L. Whiting, E. B. Fred and J. W. Stevens, Bul. 372 (1925). Agricultural Expt. Station, Univ. of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin.
- Leading Commercial Varieties of Canning Peas—E. J. Delwiche and Earl J. Renard, Bul. 382 (1926). Same address as above.
- Pea Disease Survey in Wisconsin—F. R. Jones and M. B. Linford, Research Bul. 64 (1925). Same address as above.
- Growing Peas for Canning—M. D. Jones and A. K. Gardner, Bul. 163 (1926). Extension Service, Univ. of Maine, Orono, Maine.

Failure of Deficiency Bill May Prevent Investigations

Included in the projects of the U. S. Department of Agriculture for which appropriations were not made by Congress because of the failure of the passage of the second deficiency bill are insecticide and fungicide investigations, investigation of mushroom insects, and blueberry investigations in the South Atlantic States. The funds asked for these three amounted to \$49,000. According to a recent statement by the budget officer for the Department, however, these three investigations may possibly be commenced if means of obtaining funds can be arranged.

State Workmen's Compensation Laws

A survey of workmen's compensation legislation, recently issued by the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, reveals that Canada and all but five of the States and the District of Columbia are covered by compensation laws. The volume of nearly 700 pages presents a complete review of the laws up to the end of the legislative session of 1926, and historical and analytical matter is given together with the major part of the text of the laws. Copies of the bulletin can be obtained from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, for \$1 each.